

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINGST 02282 01 OF 02 031228Z

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FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO DEA WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5109

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FOR STRICKLER, EOIL, EPD, SPECIAL PROJECTS; EN, DURKIN; PASS MIAMI
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E.O. 11652: N/A

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SUBJ: OPERATION BUCCANEER SITREP 1

1. THIS SITREP REPRESENTS THE FIRST OF A SERIES OF STATUS REPORTS ON THE CONDUCT AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF JAMAICAN AND DEA EFFORTS BOTH JOINT AND UNILATERAL IN OPERATION BUCCANEER. FUTURE SITREPS WILL BE SUBMITTED WEEKLY ON MONDAY COVERING THE PRECEEDING SEVEN DAY PERIOD. A ONE TIME SUMMARY OF THE CONCEPT, GOALS ORGANIZATION AND MISSIONS OF THE TASK FORCE FOLLOWS.

2. IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST FOR US ASSISTANCE AS PART OF GOJ'S ANTI-CRIME DRIVE, DEA AND GOJ DESIGNED AN OPERATION THE JOINT GOAL OF WHICH IS TO REMOVE JAMAICA FROM THE COMMERCIAL ILLEGAL GANJA EXPORT BUSINESS AND TO ELIMINATE JAMAICA AS A WAY STATION FOR THE ILLEGAL IMPORTATION OF NARCOTIC DRUGS FROM SOUTH AMERICA OR EUROPE INTO THE US. TO ACCOMPLISH THESE GOALS THE FOLLOWING SPECIFIC MISSION HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED:

A. LOCATE AND DESTROY COMMERCIALLY CULTIVATED GANJA FIELDS AND HARVESTED GANJA CACHES.

B. DETECT AND INTERDICT AIRCRAFT AND BOATS INVOLVED IN SMUG-
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PAGE 02 KINGST 02282 01 OF 02 031228Z

GLING ACTIVITIES IN JAMAICA.

C. DEVELOP SUBSTANTIVE AND OR CONSPIRACY CASES AGAINST
MAJOR VIOLATORS AND FINANCIERS IN JAMAICA OR THE US.

3. THE ORGANIZATION AND COMMAND STRUCTURE TO ACCOMPLISH THESE
TASKS MELTS CAPABILITIES INHERENT IN THE JAMAICA CONSTABULARY
FORCE (JCF), JAMAICA DEFENCE FORCE (JDF) AND DEA INTO A
JOINT TASK FORCE. HIGH LEVEL MATTERS OF POLICY AND THE CONDUCT
OF DIPLOMATIC EXCHANGES CONCERNING THE OPERATION RESIDES WITH
THE US AMBASSADOR (AMBASSADOR GERARD) AND HIS PRINCIPAL NARCOTICS
ASSISTANT SA GLENNON L. COOPER THE NARCOTIC ATTACHE FOR THE USG. FOR
GOJ IT RESIDES WITH THE MINISTER OF NATIONAL SECURITY AND JUSTICE
MR. ELI MATALON. WORKING COMMAND, LOGISTICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE
SUPPORT OF PERSONNEL AND RESOURCES COMMITTED TO THE OPERATION BY THE
THREE PARTICIPANTS, JDF, JCF AND DEA REMAINS WITH THESE ORGANIZA-
TIONS. OPERATIONAL CONTROL OF RESOURCES THROUGH A JOINT COMMAND
CENTER LOCATED ON THE NORTH COAST OF JAMAICA WILL REST WITH OFF-
ICERS OF THE JDF AND JCF. DEA PERSONNEL AND RESOURCES WILL BE
PLACED AT THEIR DISPOSAL AND WILL WORK WITH JAMAICAN PERSONNEL
AS ADVISORS AND OBSERVERS AND TO OPERATE PARTICULAR SPECIALIZED
EQUIPMENT SUCH AS THE RADAR, SENSOR EQUIPMENT AND AIRCRAFT.

4. THE CONCEPT OF THE OPERATION ENVISIONS THREE OPERATIONAL
GROUPS DEDICATED TO ACCOMPLISHMENT OF THE THREE MISSIONS IDEN-
TIFIED. A SUMMARY OF THE FUNCTIONS AND RESOURCES OF EACH GROUP
FOLLOWS:

A. ERADICATION GROUP: PHASE ONE- OPERATIONAL TESTING. RESOU-
RCES:

1 USDA REP; JAMAICAN DA REP; 1 DEA AGENT; 1 JCF OFFICER;

1 JDF BELL 47 G3B1 RIGGED FOR SPRAYING; JDF TROOPS.

INITIALLY THIS GROUP WILL TEST AVAILABLE COMMERCIAL HERBICIDES
TO DETERMINE WHICH HERBICIDE AND IN WHAT STRENGTH IS MOST
DESIREABLE FOR USE IN SPRAYING AND KILLING GROWING FIELDS OF
MARIHUANA. ONCE DETERMINED, ONE ERADICATION TEAM WORKING WITH THE
SPRAY HELICOPTER WILL DEVELOP TACTICS TO BE USED IN PHASE 2.
TACTICS WILL INCLUDE LANDING TROOPS IN GANJA FIELDS, SECURING
THE AREA, SEARCHING FOR AND BURNING CACHES, INSURING NO PERSONS
OR LIVESTOCK ARE IN THE FIELD, CALLING IN THE
SPRAY HELICOPTER OR SPRAYING THE FIELD WITH BACKPACK SPRAY
EQUIPMENT AS APPROPRIATE. THIS PHASE WILL COMMENCE THE FIRST
WEEK IN JULY. PHASE TWO WILL COMMENCE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND WILL
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PAGE 03 KINGST 02282 01 OF 02 031228Z

PROBABLY CONSIST OF THREE HELICOPTER MOBILE TEAMS AND THE SPRAY
HELICOPTER PURSUING A SUSTAINED ERADICATION EFFORT FOR A MINIMUM OF

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PAGE 01 KINGST 02282 02 OF 02 031234Z

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90 DAYS. A GRANT FROM THE INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS FUND HAS BEEN REQUESTED TO MAKE THE INPUT OF FOUR US HELICOPTERS POSSIBLE. THESE HELICOPTERS, THREE TROOPLIFT, ONE COMAND AND CONTROL, WILL RELEASE JDF HELICOPTERS TO FLY ERADICATION MISSIONS.

B. SURVEILLANCE AND INTERDICTION GROUP - PHASE ONE, BUILD UP. THIS PHASE OF OPERATION BUCCANEER HAS BEEN PURSUED SINCE JUNE 1. IT CONSISTS OF BRINGING SUFFICIENT RESOURCES IN COUNTRY TO OPERATE IN CONJUNCTION WITH EXISTING JDF AND JCF CAPABILITIES TO OPTIMIZE CHANCES OF DETECTING AND INTERDICTING SMUGGLING BOATS AND AIRCRAFT. COMMUNICATIONS PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH A GRANT FROM THE STATE DEPARTMENT INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS FUND ARE PHASING IN TO ALLOW NECESSARY CONTROL OF THIS EFFORT THROUGH THE NERVE CENTER ON THE NORTH COAST. INVOLVED IN THIS GROUP ARE: 1 DEA TPS-1D RADAR; 1 US COAST GUARD CUTTER; 2 JDF COAST GUARD PATROL VESSELS; 6 JCF MARINE POLICE BOATS; 2 DEA 5-41 AIRCRAFT; 2 JDF CESSNA 185 AIRCRAFT; 1 AND ON WEEKENDS 2 JDF READY FORCE OF 10 TROOPS PER TEAM; 1-2 TROOP LIFT HELICOPTERS FOR READY FORCES; 60-80 JDF TROOPS FOR AIRSTRIP DENIAL; DEA SENSORS FOR REMOTE MONITORING OF SUSPECT AREAS; 1 DEA NAVAJO AIRCRAFT; 1 JDF DUKE AIRCRAFT; VARIOUS JCF POLICE ELEMENTS; 1 JDF SEIZED BOAT FOR INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION. COMMUNICATIONS TO COMMENCE PHASE TWO, OPERATIONS, ARE PROJECTED TO BE IN PLACE BY 7 JULY. AT THAT POINT BUCCANEER BASE (NORTH CP) WILL BE STAFFED FULLY AND WILL ASSUME CONTROL OF THE ENTIRE

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PAGE 02 KINGST 02282 02 OF 02 031234Z

OPERATION. THE SURVEILLANCE AND INTERDICTION EFFORT WILL CONTINUE AT A SUSTAINED PACE FOR A MINIMUM OF 90 DAYS WITH ALL FORCES INVOLVED SO DEDICATED FROM COMMENCEMENT OF PHASE TWO.

C. INVESTIGATIONS GROUP

THIS GROUP HAS BEEN CONDUCTING LIMITED OPERATIONS SINCE JUNE 1. FULL SCALE OPERATIONS COMENCED ON JULY 1 WITH THE INFLUX OF DEA INVESTIGATORS AND THE DEDICATION OF A CADRE OF JCF OFFICERS TO THIS EFFORT. SINCE DEA AGENTS HAVE NO JURISDICTION IN JAMAICA, THEY HAVE BEEN ACTING AS ADVISORS TO THE JDF OFFICERS ASSIGNED NARCOTICS DUTIES, AND THROUGH ARRANGEMENT WITH MINISTER MATALON TO WORK UNDERCOVER TO FERRET OUT NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS. (SEE: STEWART, ALVIN J. GA-74-0008.). AN AIRPORT DETAIL HAS ALSO BEEN FORMED TO ATTEMPT APPREHENSION OF COURIERS TRANSITTING JAMAICA ENROUTE FROM SOUTH AMERICA TO THE US. A GRANT FROM THE STATE DEPARTMENT INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS FUND HAS MADE POSSIBLE THE INPUT OF INVESTIGATIVE AIDS TO GIVE THE JAMAICAN NARCOTICS UNIT A SIGNIFICANT CAPABILITY DURING THE OPERATION AND THEREAFTER.

5. IN CONCLUSION THE TASK FORCE IS GEARING UP FOR THE OPERATION BY PHASING IN PERSONNEL AND CAPABILITIES AS FAST AS POSSIBLE. THE NECESSARY BUILD UP OF DEA PERSONNEL HAS BEGUN AND WILL CONTINUE THROUGH JULY. THE PRINCIPLE AREAS FOR JOINT EFFORT AND COOPERATION INITIALLY IDENTIFIED STILL APPEAR VIABLE AND WORTHY OF THE RESOURCES DEVOTED TO THEM. GOJ REMAINS COMPLETELY COMMITTED TO DEDICATING THOSE RESOURCES, WITHIN THEIR CAPABILITY, NECESSARY TO ITS SUCCESS.
GERARD

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